



THOMAS G. NEWMAN,
EDITOR.

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EDITORIAL BUZZINGS.

Please Read the article on page 627 of last week's JOURNAL, on how to make "Honey a Staple Article," and then send us a Postal Card, if you have not already done so.

A Swarm of Bees at the Paris Exposition was the cause of considerable excitement some time ago. Here is the account of it, as given in an exchange:

One morning lately, about eleven o'clock, considerable excitement was caused in the Food-Products and Agricultural Galleries of the Paris Exhibition by the issuing of an immense swarm of bees from one of the observation hives exhibited by Mr. Blow, of Welwyn, Herts. The swarm settled on the top of one of the highest elm-trees, about 60 feet above the roadway. Several ladders were tied together and placed against the tree, but those who climbed into it were unable to reach the bees. Eventually the owner succeeded in approaching the fugitives, and successfully "hived" the swarm.

D. R. Emery, editor of the Apiary Department of the Colorado Farmer, thus "goes for" the fellow who wrote that article for the Philadelphia Record on "Bogus Comb Honey":

Why are not persons or papers as quick to state truths as falsehoods? A small "insinuation of evil" or "error" is caught "on the fly," while genuine truth and character must come with a retinue of witnesses and proof!

The writer must have had a contract to fill a half column in his paper, and to show it was simply talk, he concludes with a statement that "a Berkshire county bee-rearer lamented that his bees could not work in the dark; so he crossed his bees on lighting bugs, and now has bees with lanterns for dark nights. He is now trying to make a cross breed with gum coats and rubber boots for rainy weather."

Why does not the fool make paraffine and glucose honey, if it is such a sure and easy

thing made, and not bother with his patent bees?

Friends, do not be alarmed; the occupation of our invaluable friends, the honey-bees, is not yet superseded. Down with the lies.

Well Done.—In these days when the newspapers and periodicals seem bent on publishing falsehoods about manufactured honey, it is refreshing to see the *City and Country*, published at 235 West 23rd St., New York, come out in favor of our pursuit. Its Apiary Department is in charge of A. H. Duff, of Kansas, and its September number devotes three columns to the defense of the purity of comb honey. It starts out with this paragraph:

We are all aware that a certain class of newspapers are very eager for sensational stories, and it seems that they have but little regard for the truth, and the consequences are, falsehoods are sent out broadcast over the country, doing great injury that takes months and years to patch up, and the following, among many other slurs of the kind that have been cast at the bee-keeping fraternity, is now going the rounds of this class of newspapers. From the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL of recent date, which shows up one of these deliberate lies, we copy the following:

It then copied our editorial entire, from page 436, refuting the calumnies of the Philadelphia Record, and other papers, and stating that Bro. Root had offered \$1,000 to any one who would take him to the place where comb honey is manufactured by machinery, etc. Then the *City and Country* details the uses of comb foundation, and adds:

This is just how far machinery goes towards manufacturing honey. We broadly assert that all such claims that comb honey is manufactured by machinery, and paraffine used for comb and glucose to fill the comb, etc., are utter falsehoods in every particular. It never was done, it can't be done, and it never will be done.

Any and every reader of the *City and Country* is entitled to the above \$1,000 reward if they can show up one person or persons, or firms, engaged at this business.

It then quotes another misrepresentation from the Cleveland Plain Dealer, giving a rehash of the article from the Philadelphia Record. *City and Country* sums up its reply in these words:

Now, we wish to give the Cleveland Plain Dealer a point-r: A. I. Root, of Medina, Ohio (and, by the way, it is but a short distance from Cleveland), has a standing reward of \$1,000 for such comb honey as you describe. Now is your chance, put up your manufactured honey and take the money. If you cannot do this, then we will expect you to correct the malicious, injurious falsehood that appeared in your paper.

That is just right! The *City and Country* is entitled to our thanks for its manly defense of our industry. If other papers would only be as fair and honorable, we should have nothing to complain of. Mr. W. C. Turner, the Managing Editor, is worthy of our hearty commendation.

Subscribers who do not receive this paper promptly, will please notify us at once.

The Australasian Bee Journal for September notices the result of the Philadelphia bee-lawsuit, and adds:

The Union deserves the hearty support of all America bee-keepers, for had they not persistently fought out these cases in the law courts, without doubt a grievous wrong would have been inflicted upon American bee-keepers.

We have two cases now on hand, both appeals to higher courts, and we hope that the record of the Union will not be broken in these. So far it has not lost one of its suits, a record which is beyond all reasonable expectation, and compares very favorably with any other similar organization in existence.

If its friends, and those who are benefited by its labors, rally around its standard as they should do, the Manager of the Union will do his best to bear off the victory in these suits. But it takes money as well as brains to do that work, and there ought to be ten thousand bee-keepers who would gladly spring to their feet and offer their membership fees at once, so that the Union could hire the best law talent in existence, and thereby insure in advance the victory—for our cause is just!

Mr. R. McKnight's exhibit in the Apiary Department at the Toronto Industrial was undoubtedly the attraction of that section of the exhibition. The *Empire* says of it:

In this department Mr. R. McKnight, of the Homewood Apiary, Owen Sound, who has done much to encourage bee-culture in Ontario, has for several seasons past been laboring to make the exhibit an attractive one, and while the large number of prizes he took this year attested the excellence of the various grades of honey shown by him, crowds were attracted around his exhibit from the handsome appearance it presented. It was certainly the finest and most artistically arranged display that has ever been seen in the Apiary Department.

The exhibit was awarded 4 first, 3 second, and 2 third prizes. In addition to these, Mr. McKnight secured a silver medal for the best style of tins for holding extracted honey, and also a bronze medal for the best assortment of glass for the same purpose.—*Owen Sound Times*.

Bee-Disease in California.—L. E. Mercer, of Ventura, Calif., writes to *Gleanings* about a singular disease with which the apiaries in California are affected each succeeding season. He says:

This disease appears every spring and summer in a very few hives in nearly every apiary in the country, but it has caused no serious alarm until recently. The bees usually get over it themselves, but we do not get much honey from the colonies that are so affected. A friend on the Ojai has been experimenting a little with the colonies that were thus diseased. He took the queen out and replaced her with another from a healthy hive. The disease entirely disappeared; and from putting the queen from the diseased colony into a colony that was perfectly healthy, it also became diseased in a very short time.

GLEAMS OF NEWS.

Poisoned Honey.—A New Zealand paper gives the following remarkable account of poison existing in honey. It says:

Mr. R. de Thierry has given the *Herald* some important information on the subject. He states that on one occasion he was traveling along the sea-coast with some Maoris, when they fell in with a store of honey accumulated by some wild bees. Mr. de Thierry and one of the natives ate heartily of the honey as they found it. Soon after Mr. de Thierry was affected with giddiness, and fell down, feeling very ill. The native who had eaten with him was similarly affected. The Maoris promptly adopted remedial measures, such as they had probably tried before in similar cases. They kindled a fire, piled some seaweed upon it, and held Mr. de Thierry amongst the fumes until he became so sick that he vomited freely. By and by he got better, and the native, under similar treatment, also recovered. Mr. de Thierry says that the poisoning arises from the bees having access to the *karo* (*Pittosporum crassifolium*), a tree or shrub which grows all around the coast of New Zealand. At a certain season a kind of gum exudes from the *karo*, which the bees use for the wax of the comb. The poison is in the wax, not in the honey. This matter is of importance, for bee-keeping is now general, and the *karo* is being generally planted, as it makes a pretty and useful hedge. It can stand any amount of stormy weather, and also the spray of the sea.

In the *Australasian Bee Journal* for September, just received, we find the following comments on this subject, which will be of interest to our readers. We shall give further particulars as soon as the number for October comes to hand:

We have received from the Rev. Father Madan a full report of all the circumstances connected with the deaths of the two natives who were reported to have died from the effects of eating poisoned honey, and also samples of the honey taken from the same bee-nest from which the natives procured the honey they ate. The latter, immediately on receipt, we handed over to Mr. Pond to analyze, but we have not received his report. No doubt we shall have it in time for next month's issue, when our readers shall be placed in possession of all the facts of the case. We may state that the Rev. Father Madan has been at a deal of trouble in gathering all the facts connected with the accidents to the natives, and procuring the samples of honey, and deserves the thanks of all New Zealand bee-keepers for his labor connected therewith.

Paris Green and the Bees.—In the number of *Insect Life* for September, just at hand, we notice the following very strange article:

The prevailing opinion seems to favor the theory, that if arsenical mixtures are sprayed or dusted upon fruit trees while the latter are in bloom, the bees which frequent them will be destroyed. With this idea in view, fruit-growers have very properly been cautioned not to use these mixtures during the blooming season, and in fact this has been urged as an argument against the use of these substances as insecticides.

The writer, while in Louisiana, was told by planters that dusting Paris green upon the cotton-plants, killed the bees which fre-

quented the blossoms thereon for the purpose of securing the nectar which was contained in them.

There appears, however, to be some good negative evidence bearing upon the problem, which it will be well to consider before forming a decided opinion in this really important matter.

Mr. Edwin Yenowine, a fruit grower near New Albany, Ind., is a very strong advocate of the use of arsenical mixtures, as against both codling moth and plum curculio, and is also, to a limited extent, engaged in apiculture.

Some time ago, while spending a day with Mr. Yenowine, he reminded me that several years ago, he had written me as to the probable effects on bees of the use, during the blooming season, of these arsenical mixtures, and had received a very cautionary reply. It appears that instead of following my advice he sprayed all sorts of fruits freely, both in and out of the blooming season, and instead of destroying his bees, they have increased from 8 to 17 strong, healthy colonies, and have furnished honey of which he and his family have partaken freely. This conversation with Mr. Yenowine took place on June 23, so that the increase shown was practically that of an unfavorable season.—F. M. WEBSTER.

Well! Well!! We are astonished! When bees get fat, strong and healthy on Paris green! Who would have thought it? *Insect Life* is published in Washington. We wonder if Prof. Wiley has not something to do with it. What does Prof. Cook say about it?

Dr. J. J. Owens, of Waterloo, Iowa, gave us a call a few days ago, as he was in Chicago on business. We were pleased to see that he contributed an article for the *Waterloo Courier*, refuting an article which that paper copied from *Harper's Bazar*, asserting that "syrup and paraffine" was taking the place of "wax and honey," in which he says:

Now, as a producer of gilt-edge comb honey, I hereby refute and deny the above in toto, and brand it as a base falsehood and gross slander upon the honey industry of the country. In other words, it is a plain, unvarnished lie, pure and simple. I also protest against the publishing of the same by the local press as facts, as it is doing a hard-working class of men who are considered to be as honest as the general run of mankind—a great injustice and injury. It also has a tendency to prejudice the general public who are not cognizant of the true facts relating thereto, against the honey-producer. I will further state in vindication thereof, that Mr. A. I. Root, of Medina, O., has a standing offer of \$1,000 open to the world, to any one who will tell or show him where artificial comb honey is manufactured. Up to the present time no one has come forward to claim the reward.

I assure you, Mr. Editor, and your many readers, in all sincerity and candor, as a fact (and facts are stubborn things), which must and will be admitted by every candid mind, that there is no such thing as artificial comb honey, never has been any made, and I feel safe in saying there never will be.

Poultry and Pets.—The *American Poultry Journal* is one of the best periodicals published in the poultry interest. It is a large quarto monthly, and is illustrated. We club it with the *BEE JOURNAL*, and send both periodicals for \$1.50 a year.

No Sophistry.—"Echoes," a nice monthly published by Will M. and L. S. Young of Nevada, O., gives the following rebuke to papers which have published this contemptible slander of the honey-bees:

The expression, "busy as a bee" is sophistry. That honey-making humbug lives in luxurious idleness nearly two thirds of the year.—*Ex.*

The writer of the above is talking "sophistry." It is not the bees' fault if they are idle part of the year. The flowers furnish nectar about six months of the twelve, over a large territory, and during that time the "honey-making humbug" is out early and late; and during the height of the honey season its life is of but a few weeks' duration, owing to the excessive work done at that time to gather in the extra flow of sweets so lavishly stored by myriads of flowers. We would like to see anything on earth that will equal the bee in its almost ceaseless labor, as long as it finds it to do. There is no "sophistry" about the expression "busy as a bee;" give them twelve months' flow of nectar, and they will put in a full year of labor.

The Southern Exposition will be open from Nov. 5 to 15, 1889, at Montgomery, Ala. It offers \$20,000 in cash premiums. For the Apiculture Exhibit, Department A, Group 4, the following are the premiums:

Best general exhibit of apiculture implements and products	\$20.00
Best 25 pounds extracted honey, to be shown in glass	5.00
Best 25 pounds comb honey, to be shown in sections	5.00
Best colony Italian bees	5.00
Best ten pounds comb foundation	5.00
Best bee-hive for practical use	3.00
Best and largest, most interesting and instructive exhibition in this department by any individual or bee-association	25.00

All articles entered for premiums must belong to the exhibitor, and all honey entered for premiums must be from the exhibitor's apiary. The exhibitor receiving the largest amount of cash premiums is to receive a diploma.

Mr. W. H. Black, of Montgomery, Ala., intends to make a good exhibit, and will get up a club for the *BEE JOURNAL*.

Capital Bee-keepers' Convention.—Mr. C. E. Yocom, of Sherman, Ills., on Sept. 30, 1889, gives the following account of the organization of a new bee-keepers' association in Illinois:

A number of bee-keepers of Sangamon and adjoining counties met in the Supervisors' Room of the Court House in Springfield, Ills., on Wednesday, Sept. 25, 1889, and organized the "Capital Bee-keepers' Association." Although the attendance was not large, an enthusiasm was evinced, not often seen in such assemblies. The entire forenoon was spent in organizing. In the afternoon, the subjects of "Fall Bloom," "Wintering," "Prices of Honey," etc., were interestingly discussed. The association will meet semi-annually. Any person interested in bee-culture may become a member of the association, and receive a printed copy of the Constitution and By-Laws, by sending his or her name and address, with 50 cents, to the Secretary.

The following officers were elected: President, P. J. England, of Fancy Prairie, Ills.; Vice-Presidents, Alfred Lewis, of Taylorville, and D. D. Cooper, of Sherman; Secretary, C. E. Yocom, of Sherman; and Treasurer, Geo. F. Robbins, of Mechanicsburg. "From the acorn springs the oak."—C. E. Yocom, Sec.

AN EMBLEM-FLOWER.

BY S. BEAUMONT KENNEDY.

'Tis meet a nation's symbol be
 One of God's fragrant flowers;
 They catch the sunlight of His smile,
 And drink His crystal showers.
 They bloom in lowly glade and glen,
 And on the mountain heights,
 And in their prismatic petals hold
 The rainbow's radiant lights.

The lily tells of sunny France
 Corn-flower of "Fatherland;"
 The thistle and the heather-bells
 For Scotland's glory stand;
 While England claims the royal rose,
 And wears it on her shield,
 And shamrocks, green as emerald,
 Fair Erin's meadows yield.

Then choose we from the waste of bloom
 That makes our landscape gay
 A blossom bright to name us in
 The nation's great bouquet.
 And seek it not mid close-cut rows
 Of fragrant hot-house flowers,
 But be its tender tintings known
 In mead and rustic bowers.

A flower there is that blooms for all,
 For rich man and for poor,
 Upon the Western prairie wastes,
 And on the Northern moor.
 Like Gheber true it greets the sun
 Where all the East is red,
 And o'er the Southern cotton-fields
 It shakes its golden head.

Then be our symbol rich and rare.
 This flower so blessed of Heaven,
 And let our sweetest songs and thoughts
 Henceforth to it be given,
 The Golden-rod! the Golden-rod,
 Columbia's regal crest,
 It lies like sunshine in the land,
 And seems with sunshine blessed!

The fairest land on earth is ours,
 Christ's blessing o'er it falls,
 And ne'er a tyrant's boasting wakes
 An echo in our halls.
 We brook no despot's iron heel,
 No laws save those of God;
 Then over us let Freedom wave
 Her wand of Golden-rod!

—Frank Leslie's Monthly.

Agricultural Colleges.—California looks with emulation upon the State Agricultural College of Michigan. It wants a similar institution in that State, and well it might, for it is a great advantage to farmers' sons in every department of agriculture, including the pursuit of bee-keeping. The *Rural Californian* remarks as follows about the matter:

The demand for reliable, intelligent, honest help in the apary is increasing every year in Southern California, and under present surroundings is likely to increase. While there seems to be no effort in any direction to supply the demand, the State University at Berkeley, has the opportunity to give us a helping hand in this matter, and bee-keepers should urge, yes, insist that the University do its duty in this regard. The State of California can produce \$15,000,000 worth of honey per annum, and furnish an article superior to any in the world. The honey and wax product of California is now over \$1,000,000 worth; and the University of California, by proper effort, could double this annually until the product has reached its limit. I know of no agricultural pursuit that will allow so great a margin for improvement as may be found in apiculture, in the State of California.

The State of Michigan finds it profitable to have a Professor who gives much of his time to experiment and instruction in this branch of education, and the State reaps annually rich rewards for the money expended upon the apicultural department of

the Michigan University. That State has no such territory, no such nectar-yielding flowers, shrubs and trees, as are found in California. Here we count on a perpetual bloom, and in Southern California the bee is on the wing 350 days in the year, and would be every day in the year, but for the rain.

In Michigan the bees are for the most part shut up in cellars for four or five months to prevent their freezing to death, and often cannot work in the spring or summer for a long time on account of cold, cloudy weather. The yield of honey in Michigan does not exceed 70 pounds per hive under the most intelligent management, while in California it averages 250 pounds per hive.

California could well afford a professorship at her University, where the student could be taught everything pertaining to the science of bee-keeping, and thus add to the stream of human knowledge something that would add millions of money to the commerce of the world; give employment to thousands of her citizens, and not detract from the soil one particle of its vitality. Every particle of nectar gathered and sold in the markets of the State is so much gain to the commonwealth, that would be wasted on the desert air, except for the industry of the bee and the bee-keeper.

The American Newspaper Annual for 1889, by N. W. Ayer & Son, Philadelphia, Pa., (price \$5) contains a carefully prepared list of all newspapers and periodicals in the United States and Canada, arranged by States and towns in alphabetical order. Under this head is given the name of the paper, the issue, general characteristics, year of establishment, size, subscription price and circulation, also the names of editors and publishers, and the street address (when known) in all cities of about 50,000 population.

Among its exhaustive and interesting tables are those showing the cities, towns, and villages of the United States having a population of 5,000 and upward, arranged in alphabetical order; how many counties there are in each State; in how many of these newspapers are published, etc.

An Appendix to "Scientific Queen-Rearing," by G. M. Doolittle, is given in the *Second Edition*, which details his further experiments in his methods of Queen-Rearing.

This "Appendix" will be mailed free of cost to all who have the first edition, upon application at this office. It is now ready for delivery.

The "Second Edition" of this interesting book will be mailed to any address, post-paid, for \$1.00.

New Posters for the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, printed in two colors, have just been printed, and will be sent free to all who can use them. They are very handsome, and will "set off" an exhibit at Fairs. It will tell Bee-keepers how to subscribe, for "Subscriptions Received Here" is quite prominent at the bottom.

We will also send sample copies of the BEE JOURNAL, for use at Fairs, if notified a week or ten days in advance where to send them.

A Tempting Offer for those who are willing to help get new names for our JOURNALS:

Some are desirous of collecting names at once, and we would like them to do so, and thus begin early to get new readers for 1890.

We propose to all who subscribe now for 1890, to give them all the rest of the numbers of this year free—so the sooner they subscribe, the more they will get for their money.

Now, in order to pay our friends to work for our JOURNALS, we have gotten up special editions of Mr. Doolittle's "Scientific Queen-Rearing," (with Appendix), and Dr. Miller's "Year Among the Bees," bound with nice paper covers, and will present a copy of either book to any one who will send us two new subscribers for either of our JOURNALS (the BEE JOURNAL, weekly, or the HOME JOURNAL, monthly).

These editions are not for sale, but are gotten up specially for premiums for getting new subscribers. They are nicely printed, and will be sent free of postage, as pay for work to be done for our JOURNALS. Clubs need not be located at one post-office, and may contain one "Bee Journal" and one "Home Journal" to the same or different addresses; or both may be for either JOURNAL, as may be desired. Dickens or Waverley may be obtained for each subscriber in this club as offered on the last page of this JOURNAL.

The HOME JOURNAL is needed in every family, and it will be no trouble to get subscribers for it anywhere and among all classes of persons. For larger clubs of it, consult any issue, and our list of premiums.

Call upon your neighboring bee-keepers who are not subscribers to this JOURNAL, and secure the premium mentioned above. We strongly urge you to commence collecting names at once.

In sending in new subscriptions, remember to give the full address, with the county, and at the time of sending, state that the names enclosed are for premiums, if the premiums are not then selected.

Apiary Register.—All who intend to be systematic in their work in the apiary, should get a copy of the Apiary Register and begin to use it. The prices are as follows:

For 50 colonies (120 pages).....	\$1 00
" 100 colonies (220 pages).....	1 25
" 200 colonies (420 pages).....	1 50

Convention Notices.

☞ The International Bee-Keepers' Association will meet in the court-house, at Brantford, Ont., Canada, on December 4, 5, and 6, 1889. All bee-keepers are invited to attend, and State and District bee-keepers' societies are requested to appoint delegates to the convention. Full particulars of the meeting will be given in due time. Anyone desirous of becoming a member, and receiving the last Annual Report bound, may do so by forwarding \$1.00 to the Secretary.—R. F. HOLTERMANN, Sec., Romney, Ont., Canada.

☞ The Union Bee-Keepers' Society will meet in Mount Sterling, Brown Co., Ill., on Oct. 23 and 24, 1889. The prospects are very flattering for a grand time, and all who are interested in bees or honey are cordially invited to attend.
 J. M. HAMBAUGH, Sec.

The Mistaken Bee.

A vagrant bee came buzzing round,
And Chloe, frightened at the sound,
Cried, "Mary, help! Go, Lizzie, fetch
A broom and kill the little wretch.

Too late! despite the bustling maids,
The wanton imp at once invades
Poor Chloe's lips—the saucy thing!
And fixes there its ugly sting.

The culprit caught, the maids prepare
To kill the monster then and there;
When trembling for its life, the bee
Makes this extenuating plea:

"Forgive! O beauteous queen, forgive
My sad mistake; for, as I live,
Your mouth (I'm sorry, goodness knows),
I surely took it for a rose!"

"Poor insect!" Chloe sighed; "I vow
'Twere very hard to kill him now—
No harm the little fellow meant;
And, then, he seems so penitent;
Besides, the pain was very small—
I scarcely feel it now at all!"

—John G. Saxe.

QUERIES AND REPLIES.**Using Old Sections and Combs in the Fall.**

Written for the American Bee Journal

Query 659.—I have a lot of old sections, mostly filled with comb from previous years. They are dark, somewhat propolized, and the sections are considerably soiled. I did not like to use them for our nice white honey. Would it not be a good idea to use these for the fall crop, as it usually sells cheap, anyway?—Bee-Keeper.

Yes.—C. C. MILLER.

Yes.—R. L. TAYLOR.

Yes.—MRS. L. HARRISON.

I think that it would.—A. J. COOK.

It would be poor economy.—P. L. VIALLO.

Yes, they are good for fall honey.—G. M. DOOLITTLE.

No. Fall honey sells quite well when put up clean.—DADANT & SON.

Yes, if you wish; but you would have to sell it at a discount.—J. M. HAMBAUGH.

Cut the combs out, melt them into wax, and use the sections for kindling-wood.—EUGENE SECOR.

No; unless you are willing to use it at home. They might be filled with fall honey to be extracted.—M. MAHIN.

Yes, if you can sell the honey. My way would be to use the comb for wax, and clean the sections up nicely for a new crop.—J. E. POND.

Such sections are not fit to store any kind of honey in. Melt up the old comb, and use the sections for kindling fires.—C. H. DIBBERN.

Your sections would be better fitted to the fall crop than the early white crop, but whether it would be best to use them for that or not, depends upon

how bad they are. What one calls soiled and dirty, another would not describe by that name. I rather think that it would be better to burn up the sections and melt up the combs. I have done that once or twice, and we have a dark fall crop here, too.—JAMES HEDDON.

You can use them as you suggest; but I would first clean off all the propolis; and, with a sharp knife, shave off the outer edge of the cells.—J. P. H. BROWN.

Such combs, if used at any time, should be shaved down until the cells are not more than a half of an inch deep; otherwise the honey will be inferior. It does not pay me to use any but nice, clean combs, for comb honey.—G. W. DEMAREE.

It would be best to cut out all the comb, melt it into wax, and clean up the sections. Put your honey in neat and clean sections, and it will not sell so cheap.—H. D. CUTTING.

Melt the combs in all old, dirty, soiled sections, and kindle the fire with the wood. This is the best possible use that I know. Do not regret the losses of the past, but press on to the future and take care of it.—J. M. SHUCK.

Yes; use the old partly-filled sections for the fall crop; then sell it for two cents less per pound than the white clover honey sells for, and see how many of your customers will prefer the dark honey.—MAHALA B. CHADDOCK.

New honey, whether of the early or late crop, does not sell to advantage in old combs. The bee-keeper is sure to lose credit by using such combs. Sections containing nice, white comb can be wrapped in stout paper, and be kept so clean that they can be used another season to advantage. But dark, dusty combs should be melted up.—G. L. TINKER.

The usual answer to such a query is, "Throw them all out-doors, and procure brand-new ones; as your reputation is of far more value than that of the sections." However, I believe the "danger" in this direction is very highly magnified! In fact, too much so! There are many ways in which these sections can be used (without losing your reputation), thereby utilizing sections, and saving the cost of new ones. Your near neighbors, with a little explanation, would just as soon have these as any others. Of course, they should not be sent to a city market. You can also, if anything like myself, dispose of a great many on the home table.—WILL M. BARNUM.

No. Such sections are unfit for comb honey, which is a fancy article, and should be put up in first-class condition—even if it is fall honey. To

melt up the combs and use the sections for kindling-wood would be economy. To scrape the sections and fuss with them would be worth more than new ones would cost, if your time is worth anything.—THE EDITOR.

How Long will Bees Live in the Mails?

Written for the American Bee Journal

Query 660.—For how long a time is it supposed that a queen and accompanying bees can bear the confinement of shipping by mail?—Michigan.

Ten days or two weeks. They are now sent across the ocean in the mails.—MAHALA B. CHADDOCK.

For about 15 to 20 days, depending much upon how fine the sugar used is powdered.—G. L. TINKER.

They have been shipped from Europe by mail. I do not know how much more they would stand.—C. C. MILLER.

Probably four weeks, if favorable conditions are present; may be longer. I do not know.—EUGENE SECOR.

I do not know, but I have known them to stand 9 or 10 days in August weather. They should be well ventilated, and have ample room.—J. E. POND.

For an indefinite time. Probably as long as the food and warm weather would last.—C. H. DIBBERN.

That depends wholly upon the packing and the quality and quantity of food. I do not know the outside limit.—M. MAHIN.

Twenty days, without danger of loss; 40 days or even longer, in cases specially prepared.—J. M. SHUCK.

Probably until they starve to death. It is difficult to answer such a question as this, as a correct answer depends upon so many things. In common cases, perhaps three weeks.—WILL M. BARNUM.

I am not certain, for a great deal depends upon the weather, provisions, treatment, etc. I will venture an answer—from 2 to 3 weeks, should they be properly provisioned, and the weather remains propitious.—J. M. HAMBAUGH.

It depends upon many circumstances. I have had them to die in transit in 2 or 3 days, and again perfectly alive after 20 days. I have received queens from Mr. Benton, mailed in Germany, which were 19 to 21 days on the way, and all came lively.—P. L. VIALLO.

When put up right, they can stand confinement 20 days, as I know by experience, and how much longer I do not pretend to say. A few days ago I liberated a queen and some bees that had been confined in a cage provi-

sioned with pure sugar-candy for 20 days; the queen was in good health, but some of the workers were distressed with diarrhea, and discharged as black and filthy-looking matter as I ever saw in the winter season; but perhaps I should beg the pardon of our pollen-theorists, eh?—G. W. DEMAREE.

I do not know, as so much depends upon surrounding conditions. Sometimes it is but a few days, and at other times a month or more, seemingly.—JAMES HEDDON.

That depends somewhat upon the size of the queen-cage, the number of worker-bees with the queen, the care with which they are put up, and the weather. Queen-bees have crossed the ocean, were a month on the way, and arrived safely.—MRS. L. HARRISON.

I sent one to Texas, which then went to Georgia, then to Massachusetts, and then to Kentucky—*en route* about three or four weeks, with the queen and most of the workers all right at the end of the journey. I believe that with good food, they could go much further and a longer distance.—A. J. COOK.

That depends. In very hot, dry weather, they will not bear confinement as long as they will when the temperature is cooler and more pleasant. I have mailed queens successfully when they have been confined in the cage for 30 days.—J. P. H. BROWN.

Several years ago I sent some queens to Scotland, which arrived in perfect order, after a confinement of 16 days. I also sent some to New Zealand, which were *en route* 35 days; all were dead when they arrived but the queen, and she died soon afterward. I prefer not to send queens by mail where it is necessary for them to be confined more than 10 to 14 days.—G. M. DOOLITTLE.

They will stand it from 10 to 15 days, but though they have stood it for a much longer time, it is best not to presume too much upon what might be the result of a longer confinement. We have sent them to Australia, and they were in good condition, but they were specially prepared with extra food, more room than usual, and plenty of ventilation. Some we have received dead, though only confined for 3 or 4 days.—THE EDITOR.

Prang's National Flower is the title of a beautiful pamphlet which contains two colored plates of the two most popular candidates for selection as the National Flower of America. It also has two poems, and a postal card addressed to Messrs. L. Prang & Co., Boston, Mass., with a vote to be filled up for the selection of a National flower. The pamphlet costs 25 cents, and can be obtained at this office.

CORRESPONDENCE.

FACTS.

Further Discussion of the Subject of Digested Nectar.

Written for the American Bee Journal
BY PROF. A. J. COOK.

I am surprised and pained to read the editorial on page 611. I quite agree with the editor, that "Ridicule is not argument—neither are arrogant assertions and contemptuous epithets conclusive evidence." If I have ever, anywhere, used ridicule, arrogance, tyranny, or epithets, I truly beg pardon. I despise all such, and have ever tried to avoid them as I would poison. I did try to express forcibly my displeasure and opposition to the expression of opinions on subjects that writers had not investigated; especially where they taught in opposition to well-settled facts.

Some years ago the great Agassiz talked of bees, and uttered absurdities that made bee-keepers laugh. He merited rebuke, and received it. Prof. Wiley did the same thing, and the editor of the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL fairly "roasted" him. I always felt that the editor was pardonable. When a man writes of what he has not investigated, and so knows not the truth, and essays to teach others, he deserves severe reproof. The editor certainly agrees with me in this, or, he would not have written as he has in the Wiley matter.

Regarding Dr. McKinney's reply: I make no complaint of style; I think he is courteous and fair to me; but not to himself or truth.

I am very glad that the Doctor says that honey and nectar are different. So far, good. But when the Doctor teaches that heat will change cane-sugar to glucose, he is far out of the way. Why! it is heat and evaporation that prepares our cane-sugar from beets, cane, and maple sap. Unless we add acid, such evaporation never changes the sugar. If concentration by heat changed cane-sugar to glucose, then our sugar factories and maple bushes would be glucose factories. This is entirely an error.

I believe that no scientific authority teaches other than that nectar is cane-sugar, and honey, for the most part, reducible sugar. Now there are two ways that the cane-sugar can be changed to honey—either by boiling with an acid, or by animal ferment. Bees certainly work this change. They cannot do it in the first way, therefore they must do it in the second.

Again, bees have four large glands which empty their product right at the base of the tongue. Here, then, is a digestive liquid in rich abundance, that is poured out just where the honey enters. I have not the least doubt but that this is the ferment that digests the nectar. We positively know that the nectar is digested, as is easily tested. Here is the juice, emptying just where it would be needed.

I believe that these facts are demonstrated: Honey is partially, or completely, digested nectar. The bees work this digestion. I have no doubt but that the secretion from the lower head, and thoracic, glands, furnish the ferment that effects this digestion. A diluted solution of any sugar is likely, if kept warm, to ferment or sour. Thus the sap sours in the spring, and the presence of the acid changes the cane-sugar when we boil it, to glucose, and so ruins our syrup or sugar. In the same way diluted honey will sour. It is not that the honey is not digested—"the bees dyspeptic"—but the diluted honey not ripened—is likely, under the right circumstances, to sour. Thus we wish to have thick, heavy honey, so that it may not ferment.

How quickly maple sap sours. It takes only a few hours. This is not true with the syrup. The syrup may be kept for months, and not ferment. This is just the case with honey. Thin honey ferments readily; ripe honey will keep for years.

Agricultural College, Mich.

[To give pain to a friend, causes us sorrow. Our arguments were only intended to show that editors should not exclude courteous discussion, and thereby prevent all advancement—and, also, to prove that putting such articles into the waste-basket, would not disprove the arguments sought to be advanced. We stated that editors should not play the "tyrant"—not professors!

We well knew that Prof. Cook went further than he intended, in his article in *Gleanings*, and that is why we deprecated the fact that the Professor should have seemingly invoked the aid of ridicule, etc. We surmised rightly that, upon second thought, he would gladly modify the language in some particulars.

The "Wiley matter" bears no comparison to the present discussion. That was a wilful misrepresentation, made in order to cause a sensation, and one that has injured the pursuit!

The discussion of the "digested nectar" theory, is a harmless dispute

—doing no injury, and is made only to get at the truth—for which both sides are anxious.

We cannot help thinking that Prof. Cook was particularly unfortunate in the use of the word "digested."—By its use, he certainly cannot mean "food turned into chyme, ready to be converted into blood," as Webster defines that word, and as it is generally understood, in its common use!

Frequently and persistently is it stated that bees do *not* "make honey"—that they simply deposit in the combs what they gather from the flowers! That it undergoes a slight chemical change is true—but it is *not* "digested" in the common acceptance of that word!

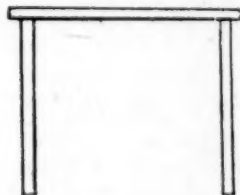
Will Prof. Cook, or some one else, please suggest some more appropriate word descriptive of immaculately-pure virgin honey? We do not want to call it *digested*, under any circumstances, if it can be avoided!—ED.]

BEES IN WINTER.

Safe Method of Wintering— How to Prepare the Bees.

Written for the American Bee Journal
BY ALLEN LATHAM.

Winter is approaching; even as I write, the wind whistles, and there is a chill in the air suggestive of coming frosts. Now is the time that the average bee-keeper is looking anxiously into the condition of his bees, and he wonders whether they will pass through the winter in safety. Beginners are debating how they shall winter their bees. It is my purpose, in this article,

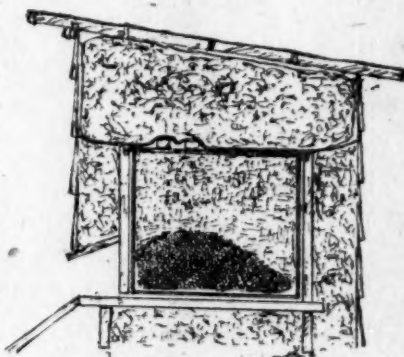


to give some idea of how the bees can be safely and surely wintered.

I began in 1884 with one swarm, which I captured in the woods. That colony died from the effects of winter. I procured bees the following spring, and the next fall I had 5 colonies, which I safely wintered. Since then I have not lost a colony from the effects

of winter. Feeling that I have found a safe way of wintering bees (I do not as yet say that I have solved the "wintering problem"), I desire to present it to the beginners, who, I hope, will accept it with pleasure.

The sketches which accompany this article show very clearly how I manage. The outer case, which is about 4 inches larger all around than the hive, and 8 inches higher, is made of clapboards and scantlings an inch square. The top, or cover, is of boards, and is covered with tarred paper, making it perfectly water-proof. The inside



Longitudinal Section, Parallel to Side.

cushions are wide frames covered with burlap and stuffed with fine planer-shavings. The cushions should be of a thickness to make the inner space where the frames are, about 6 inches wide.

A colony is easily packed away. After the frames and cushions are in place (I suppose it is needless to add that the four frames should be half full of sealed honey, and some pollen, if you do not believe in the pollen theory), the case is put over the hive, and then planer-shavings are packed under and at the sides to the top of the hive. Now remove the cover, place two sticks across the frames for a bee-passage, and over the whole lay a piece of carpet or burlap; to fill up the rest of the case, put in a large sack of shavings. The sack should be closed so that the bees can be easily examined without spilling shavings.

*Put the outside cover on, and make the entrance about 2 inches by $\frac{3}{4}$ of an inch, and the colony is ready to stand a severe winter, or a mild one. The bees should be packed when all breeding has ceased, and they are ready to quiet down for winter. Here it is about Nov. 1.

Little care is needed in winter. Snow should be shoveled away from the hives only when there comes a thaw. I usually clear the entrances whenever I happen to be in the apiary.

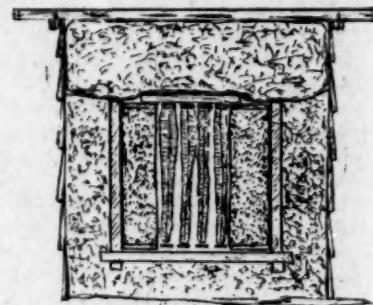
Last winter I was at college, and the bees were let entirely alone, yet they were all right in the spring—all the 27 colonies.

I will here say nothing of spring care of bees, as I expect to write later concerning that. All that remains to be said here are a few words in support of this method.

First, it is a safe way of wintering bees. The bees are in a small space, surrounded on three sides by dry shavings, which carry off all moisture, and retain the heat. They consume very little food—not more than one-fifth as much as an unprotected colony. Thus they come through the winter in a healthy and strong condition. It matters little whether there be a quart or four quarts of bees in the colony, they will winter the same, and breed up nearly as fast in the spring.

I once wintered a quart of bees with no queen. I gave them two frames only. They came through alive, drones and all. In the spring I gave them a queen, and to-day there is a strong colony in that hive. During that winter, there were 21 days in succession when the mercury stood below zero.

Second, it is a cheap method; the whole apparatus for one colony need cost but 50 cents, and will last for years. The sides can be simply tacked



Longitudinal Section, Parallel to End.

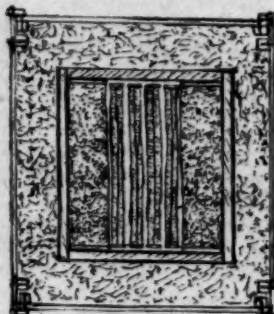
together, and so be easily pulled apart, to be packed away for "next winter."

Third, there is no more work about it than about cellar-wintering. One man can pack 15 hives a day, and unpack 25. The shavings can be kept in a bin, to be used again.

Last, but not least, it is the best thing possible when spring comes. Through it that delicious honey—apple-blossom honey—can be obtained. Last season nearly all of my surplus honey was obtained from apple-blossoms. How this can be done will be told in a future article.

In concluding, I ask the old bee-keepers to try one colony the coming

winter, and see how it works. I am aware that my method is pretty much the same as that used by many other



Horizontal Section.

bee-keepers, but just how it should be done is not clear to the majority.
Cambridge, Mass.

ROBBING.

How to Remove the Surplus Honey.

Written for the *Prairie Farmer*
BY MRS. L. HARRISON.

"Mamma! Mamma! The bees are on top of the portico, and under it, and trying to go into the parlor, through the shutters; and just look, they are all over the honey-house. Oh, my! oh, my! these is one in my hair! come quick and get it out, mamma. How it buzzes!"

The bees were stinging the chickens and they pitched into me, when I went out. There was a reign of terror for awhile, all produced by robbers attacking a queenless colony. The bees that could not find where the honey was obtained, were trying to enter other hives, and were repulsed with vengeance, which caused all this stinging commotion.

We obtained some cases for holding sections, that were too short, and left an opening at the end of the hives, during the honey-flow. This was no objection, rather to the contrary, as it assisted in ventilation; but now, robbers were trying to enter through these openings, and it appeared as though the whole apiary would soon be demoralized.

I uncovered the queenless colony and let the robbers take possession; and the other bees soon found where the honey came from. I then fastened up the openings made by the short cases, by stuffing in rags; and, to drive off the bees, wet them with kerosene. They dislike the odor of this so much that they soon left on the double-quick.

Removing Surplus.

Surplus honey can now be removed whenever convenient.

In England, in order to drive the bees from the sections, bee-keepers spread on a cloth wet with carbolic acid, which causes the bees to retreat below in the brood-combs; but in this country, smoke is generally used. I go out into the apiary in the early morning, before the bees are flying, and carefully drive the bees below with a bellows smoker, pry up the case, remove it, cover up the hive securely, and put the case into the honey-house.

When the bees get stirred up in that part of the apiary, I go to another part, and do not persist in working a long time each day, as I live in the city and must be careful that persons and horses are not stung. Sometimes in the evening I pry up cases so that I can easily remove them in the morning.

Those that I remove one morning, I scrape off the propolis and store away, and am thus prepared for another lot the succeeding day. Working slowly in this way the bees do not get demoralized, and I can work with them comfortably. If they get very excited, I stop removing surplus for a few days.

As for myself, I do not care how cross they get when I am working with them, as I am protected against their javelins; but at the same time, I must consider the safety of other persons and animals. There is a great difference in the handling of bees, to keep them on their good behavior, as the following will show, taken from the *Western Apiarian*:

"I hired a California man one season to handle my bees; he donned a white linen coat, buttoned up to the chin, put on a bee-hat, gloves with gauntlets up to the elbow, and tied with cords at the elbow, and cords around his pants above his shoes, so that it was impossible for a bee to get at him; then he would pitch right into them, with very little smoke, and the consequence was, in a few days we could scarcely stay on the place for the bees. So I discharged him, and took them in hand myself, and in two days I had them as tame as ever."

When bees get greatly irritated they do not always quiet down in two days, and seem to have good memories. This man had probably worked in California canyons, away from any human habitations, and as they could not sting him, did not care how cross he made them, and they would be in fine condition to drive off bears, and other marauders. Some persons are better adapted by nature to gentle, quiet handling of bees than others, but all who engage in this pursuit should try to improve in this respect.

HONEY.

Digested Nectar or Honey, as Claimed by Prof. Cook.

Written for the *American Bee Journal*
BY L. A. ASPINWALL.

I have been deeply interested in the above subject; also the gentleman in question. I say gentleman, because I know him, and have met him upon several occasions. I have been highly entertained by him at the Michigan Agricultural College. He is not only a gentleman, but a thorough scholar, not in one particular line or department, but his knowledge is diversified and general.

Now that so much controversy is growing out of the subject of honey being digested nectar, let me beg of our fraternity to discuss the subject with all enthusiasm, but not forget that men who are constantly overworked, often in a burst of enthusiasm forget themselves, and perhaps use an expression which, although harsh, may not have been intended as such. I am quite sure the word "digested" can be distorted and made to mean other than what the Professor intended. We know that to digest is to pass into the chyle stomach, and undergo such a chemical change or assimilation which renders it ready to be appropriated to the system. But when used in a sense that the Professor intended it, we understand it quite differently. When the Psalmist said, "Rivers of water flow down mine eyes because of the sins of my people," he did not mean more than tears.

As yet, I do not quite accept the Professor's theory, although I am much nearer to it than I was a year ago. I have used the litmus paper for certain tests, although not for honey, therefore I cannot speak with much assurance yet. May it not be possible that thoroughly-evaporated nectar leaves an inherent or natural acid so insoluble as not to act upon the paper? Let us hear from our friends on this point.

Perhaps Prof. Cook was a little hasty in requesting Dr. McKinney to ask the brother bee-keepers' pardon, but I can see his burst of energy and enthusiasm more than any feeling that such language would seem to indicate.

Wooden Cells—Non-Swarming.

I want to correct the Professor in his article on page 616, which I know occurred through his multitude of business. He speaks of myself and a neighbor bee-keeper having used it for "two or three years." It should read, "two seasons." I also wish to speak of tearing the comb slightly by

the bees. This would not occur had the bees been introduced during the honey-flow. It was late before completing a successful machine to bore the combs, hence the occurrence. Having discovered it myself, I remedied it at once in substituting a wood which does not leave a furred cell after being bored. The cells being bored endwise to the grain, unless the bit is kept very sharp, a little fiber will be left. The bees naturally remove it, and polish the cells, and during a failure of the honey they continue the work of polishing too long.

I also wish to explain my theory as to non-swarming: I understand the instinct of the honey-bee to guide them in this matter as much as in comb-building; that drones are reared during the approach of the swarming season to impregnate the young queens. They are invariably produced before any preparations are made in the line of queen-cells. I believe that the instinct of the bee is unerring; that they will not attempt to rear a queen and leave her without drones with which to mate. Each colony certainly acts upon the principle of isolation, as in the forest; otherwise, they would not rear drones when other colonies contain them.

WINTERING BEES.

Early Preparation of Bees for Winter—Carniolans, etc.

Written for the American Bee Journal
BY L. W. LIGHTY.

If some one were to put you to bed, and cover you, and command you to lie still, ten to one you would be uncomfortable, with one foot out in the cold, and some corner of the cover not in place, letting in the cold. Give you a little time, and you will make it snug.

So with the bees; put off the winter packing until late, when they have clustered, then you will fix it to your notion, and ten to one the bees are uncomfortable. Get them in good condition, and pack early for winter, and they will be able to "putty up" the little draught-holes that annoy them, and build bridges, and fix things in general to suit their notions, which you will generally find the best.

If bees are to be wintered out-of-doors, they will always winter better if packed and prepared early in the fall, at least before they begin to cluster. At least such has always been my experience.

I have found nice, clean wheat-chaff to be the best material for packing. Top ventilation through a six-inch

chaff-cushion is desirable; and plenty of good food is very necessary to successful out-door wintering. Let them have a little more than they need, and you generally will not lose anything in the long run.

Carniolan Bees.

I tried the Carniolans this season, and I cannot praise them very much so far. They are very prolific, are not as easily handled as Italians, and will not stick to the comb. They can be handled with very little smoke, if handled very quietly; but I do not have any time to "fool away" generally, and want to handle bees hurriedly, as a rule. I think that they do no better in honey-gathering, and on comb-building I can hardly say, as yet.

Report for the Season.

The whole of the white clover season was wet—very wet—and bees got very little honey. Honey seemed to be plentiful, but it rained every day, and bees could not get out. We had a good flow of fall honey, but it is as fall honey generally is—dark, and not very salable. Bees are likely to go into winter quarters in good condition, but will have some honey-dew in the brood-chambers.

The asters are just coming into bloom now, and may give us some honey yet, as it often does. That is usually fine honey.

Mulberry, Pa., Sept. 18, 1889.

MAILING BEES.

Sending Bees by the Pound Through the Mails.

Written for the American Bee Journal
BY E. L. PRATT.

There seems to have sprung up a lively interest in the matter of "sending bees by mail," with no more competition than I expected. Mr. Doolittle is not the man to "rush in where angels fear to tread," and I am sure that I am not. The whole question will bear considerable study on both sides. Mr. E. R. Root, on hearing the news, as given in the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, on page 581, wrote to me the following communication:

E. L. PRATT:—In regard to sending bees by mail, we have no doubt but that it is possible to do so, but it is very dangerous to the general queen-traffic, besides it is contrary to the Postal Regulations.

A few years ago one man attempted to send one-half pound of bees through the mails, the package was broken open, the bees escaped and stung the postal clerks, and the result was, queen-bees and their attendants were excluded from the mails, to pay for the bee keeper's carelessness. It is only through great efforts on the part of

the bee-keeping fraternity, especially Prof. Cook, that queen bees and a few attendants were re-admitted to the mails, and then only on conditions that a few bees might accompany the queen. To do so, the Postal laws will have to be modified.

We beg of you not to try the experiment again, if you value the privilege of sending queens by mail. The fact that we have been having trouble with Uncle Sam a number of times in regard to sending queen by mail, shows that we cannot be too cautious.

We had better be content with what we have, and not try to tip beyond the bounds; besides, even if it were permissible and no trouble would come from this source, the postage on a pound of bees would be nearly as much as the express charges, with the average distances to which bees are sent.—E. R. Root.

Mr. Alley, and several others, have pitched in and given the scheme a thorough boxing. If we can keep cool long enough, I think that the matter will adjust itself very effectually. The time is close at hand when the bulk of the business now done by the hundreds of express companies, will be handled as mail-matter by the Government. Just think of it, reader, to be able to stick a 10-cent stamp on a 5-pound article, and have it delivered at the very door of your customer, one thousand miles, or more, away! The idea is stupendous, and its need unquestionable. The great monopolies and trusts of this country are working out a grand salvation for the people in a slow but sure manner.

The *Nationalist* for August, editorially says: "The use of the mails for transmitting express packages is increasing in popularity. Were it not for the pressure upon Congress by the express companies, which thereby succeed in maintaining the rate upon fourth-class matter, at 1-cent per ounce, and the limit at four pounds, the bulk of the express business would already have gone to the post-office."

One of the improvements which should be made in the Postal Service, is the reduction of the rate for express packages. There is a manufacturing concern in Boston now using the mails for the transportation of type-writers to Mexico, that is proving the cheapest and best way, since, by special treaty the international rates for fourth-class matter permits the sending of 12-pound packages.

Perhaps you know that the dealers in liquids and glassware have been preparing for this order of things, by so packing their goods that breakage is next to impossible, even in the generally rough usage of the mails. See also an article in *The Forum*, by Dr. L. W. Bacon.

Look over the field, read up, and give your best ideas to the papers. One blundering failure should not be the means of squelching all other efforts of a progressive nature. If this

world is going to stand still, I want to leave it now; but it is not going to take a stand, yet awhile. Some of us now have pretty hard work keeping abreast of the times. All hail, coming grand events in our national history.

Marlboro, Mass.

CONVENTION DIRECTORY.

1889. Time and Place of Meeting.

Oct. 23, 24.—Union, at Mt. Sterling, Ills.
J. M. Hambaugh, Sec., Spring, Ills.

Dec. 4-6.—International, at Brantford, Ont., Canada.
H. F. Holtermann, Sec., Romney, Ont.
1890.

May 2.—Susquehanna Co., at Hopbottom, Pa.
H. M. Seeley, Sec., Harford, Pa.

In order to have this table complete, Secretaries are requested to forward full particulars of time and place of future meetings.—Ed.

SELECTIONS FROM OUR LETTER BOX

Stung by Bees, etc.—Aaron Jennings, Medusa, N. Y., on Sept. 30, 1889, writes:

As Mr. Greiner asked (page 584) for the particulars in regard to the West Milton teamster being stung so badly, I would say that it was not one swarm, but bees from quite a number of hives. Mr. Howlet, the teamster, drove his team in the yard where the bees were kept, and the teamster's boy going where the bees were, the bees went for the boy, and the boy went where his father was with the team; the bees stung the horses, and they went among the bees, knocking over six or seven hives. One horse was stung so badly that it died that night; and the other died the next day. A gentleman from the town of Milton visited me last week, and told the particulars. We have not more than one-third of a crop of honey; the hives are well-filled with honey and honey-dew to winter the bees, but I am fearful.

Golden-Rod, Extracting, etc.

—J. N. Edsall, Unadilla, Nebr., on Sept. 23, 1889, writes:

I began the season with 14 colonies, increased them to 24, and have taken about 200 pounds of comb honey—rather a poor showing, some will say. Bees started well in the spring, and did nicely until June, but since then the weather has been too cool, and there was little honey in anything; the heart's-ease bloom was light, and golden-rod yielded nothing. 1. From my experience I am inclined to agree with Mr. Eugene Secor, that the golden-rod is "no good" in some

localities. I have never seen a bee on it. 2. Would it pay me to buy an extractor, having only fall honey? 3. Can honey be extracted from the brood-chamber before the brood is all sealed in the combs? 4. All my hives are the Langstroth style but one, and that is a tall hive with a frame 12 inches deep; the colony in this hive always gives me the most comb honey. Why? 5. I placed an Alley drone and queen trap on a hive this season, but the swarm left me. Why? When I opened the hive I found three young queens on the combs, and half a dozen queen-cells unhatched. I got no honey from that outfit.

[1. The golden-rod, like many other plants, is much affected by atmospheric conditions, and some years seems not to yield nectar.

2. Yes; an extractor will pay you at all times. It is so handy to extract from partly-filled sections, in preparing for winter, etc.

3. If care is taken not to turn the comb-baskets too fast, the honey can be extracted from combs containing unsealed brood.

4. That state of things is quite unusual. The hives with shallow frames generally give the most comb honey.

5. We give it up. Perhaps Mr. Alley can throw some light on the matter.—Ed.]

Best Season for Ten Years.

E. R. Russell, Humboldt, Kans., on Sept. 21, 1889, says:

The honey-flow here has been the best for ten years, and bees are working on golden-rod and heart's-ease.

Ventilation and Foul Brood.

R. E. Parcher, Wausau, Wis., on Sept. 9, 1889, writes:

The AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL is very interesting and instructive to me; in fact too much so; but the object of this is not to compliment, but to find fault with some things that I find in it. This is called forth by reading an article on page 569, on the "Cause and Prevention of Foul Brood." There are a few facts incorporated in that article that are liable to get the whole dose into many. The writer has made a wonderful discovery in his cause of the disease, the "steaming atmosphere" laden with *detritus* (I wonder how many of us would know it, if we should meet it on the street, or in the woods, as Geo. Peck says); but Webster can introduce us, so we know who "de-

tritus" is. Well, it is a great relief to know that all we have to do is to put in a modern fire-brick tile hearth, slate or mahogany mouth fire-place to each hive, and the disease is headed off. That bees do effectually ventilate, and to a large extent control the temperature of the inside of the hive by their wing-fanning (both outside and inside of the hive), there is no doubt, and I think that at the present day it is generally admitted that the proper place in a room (and I think the same will apply to a hive) to draw the air from, is the bottom; then what better or cheaper way of ventilation than to let the bees attend to that themselves. There may be many "theoretical" disregards of correct methods of ventilation, but I think there are few practical ones.

[Our friend seems to stumble on the word *detritus*. It is applicable to "a mass of small particles worn off from solid bodies by attrition;" when the portions are larger, the word *debris* is used.—Ed.]

Poorest Season for 15 Years.

Edgar Ricard, Canaan Center, N. H., on Sept. 23, 1889, says:

Bees wintered very well in this county last winter, and swarmed early in June, but have not stored any surplus since June 20. Swarms that came out after that time have no honey to winter on. This is the poorest season for honey that I remember of for 15 years.

Bees and Grapes, etc.

Thomas Hoey, Salineville, O., on Sept. 19, 1889, writes:

There are not many bees in this part of Ohio; it is in the Yellow Creek coal hills, where a great amount of the coal is mined, so it is not much of a place to keep bees, as the hills soon dry off, and not much blossoms for bees to work on. After the cold, wet spring was over, the bees did well till about the first of August, then very little was done till about a week ago, when they worked hard on honey-dew; but rain has come, and to-day it is too cold for bees to fly much.

In regard to bees destroying grapes, I would say that I raise a large amount of grapes of the best and sweetest ever eaten, and I have about 60 colonies of bees alongside of the vines; and if bees are so destructive to grapes as some folks say, I do not see how I can raise so many. I have had good, sweet grapes on trees that could not be picked, and were left to stay until the frost froze them, and the bees near

them had very little to eat, yet they never touched them. My bees are Italians, and will go almost any place that they can get anything to eat; but they never touch the grapes, unless the grapes are bursted, or something else has torn them open. The vines over the hives are full of grapes, and the bees have nothing to work on, and yet they do not touch them. A man told me that my bees destroyed his buckwheat, by sucking all the strength out of the blossoms, so that he did not get half a crop! How is that for ignorance?

Premiums at Fairs.—J. W. Bittenbender, Knoxville, Iowa, on Sept. 27, 1889, says:

I had an exhibition of about 8,000 pounds of honey, comb and extracted, and have taken eleven premiums as follows: One of \$25.00; 2, \$10.00; 2 \$5.00; and 6 of \$2.00. The \$25.00 premium was the largest, and the \$2.00 the smallest offered.

Preventing Increase, etc.—O. P. Miner, Taylor Centre, N. Y., on Sept. 21, 1889, writes:

I began with 16 colonies in the spring, and have 19 colonies now, and 800 pounds of comb honey, and 50 pounds of extracted honey from unfinished sections, making 53½ pounds per colony, spring count. My bees were never in better condition to gather the harvest than this year; but the weather was too cool and wet during most of the basswood harvest. I worked for honey and not increase, by hiving swarms with others that had recently cast a swarm, by cutting queen-cells, and lastly by removing the queen. I was only successful by the last method in preventing increase, and I believe it to be the only way that it can be done; but it is a question with me whether we get as much honey as by allowing swarms. Our surplus honey in this locality comes principally from clover and basswood. I have never got a pound from buckwheat or fall flowers.

Carniolan Bees Compared.—Judge Laurens Hawn, of Leavenworth, Kans., on Sept. 24, 1889, writes:

I have 80 colonies of bees, and I am preparing to winter them in the cellar. I will say of my Carniolans, that the queens are larger and more prolific than my Italians; the workers are also larger, very gentle, being easily handled without smoke. They stick to their combs so quietly and tenaciously, that

a comb covered with bees could be taken to the house, the queen removed, and the comb replaced in the hive, without dislodging a half dozen bees. They are readily distinguished by the white bands, which, when the bees are in the shade, give them a silvery-grey appearance, which at once discloses their identity. They may be distinguished from the blacks at once, without trouble. The queen is larger and stouter than the black queen, and more of a dark-bronze color. With me the Carniolans are better honey-gatherers than the blacks, their combs are whiter, and they use mostly wax in place of propolis. As compared with Italians, I am not prepared to say that they are equal in honey-gathering qualities. I shall watch them carefully next season. In hiving, they are more easily managed than either blacks or Italians; their queens are very fine.

Results of the Season.—A. C. Loomis, Grand Rapids, Wis., on Sept. 27, 1889, writes:

I increased my apiary from 5 colonies to 10—3 colonies giving the increase. Those 3 seemed to do nothing but swarm; the other 2 stored the honey. It took about twice as long as usual to get the new swarms to work in sections. I had an average of 48 pounds per colony, spring count, against 67 pounds last year. I have had seven years' experience with bees, but under the present circumstances I have to keep a small apiary.

Knowing All About Bees.—John Boerstler, Vashon, Wash. Ter., on Sept. 17, 1889, writes:

When I commenced to keep bees, about 25 years ago, I got "log-gums" first, and boxes for some time, and did not know of any bee-paper or bee-books until I spent about \$125.00 for humbug moth-proof hives. Just think of it, moth-proof hives! Then I happened to get the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL, and soon after *Gleanings*, and then I began to see where I missed it by not having any bee-books to read. But those days are gone, and the beginner now can get bee books and papers, and can save many dollars by reading them; for bee-keeping cannot be learned in one year—the bee-keeper can learn all his lifetime. Perhaps some think that they know it all; and those are the kind that will never learn. My advice would be to have only one kind of hives in the apiary, and then read two or three good bee papers or books on bee-culture, and then take good care of the bees, for it

will save a good deal of money and time: then by working with the bees it will soon be discovered that bee-keeping cannot be learned in one or two years—it has been a life study for me, for I am learning yet, and expect to do so until I die. The little yellow bees have some funny ways about them very often, that will puzzle any old bee-keeper, for they are full of tricks, and it is hard to learn all of them. I, for one, get puzzled occasionally in swarming-time. Whenever you hear of a man that knows all about bees, please tell him to write a book, and I, for one, will give him \$10 for it; but I do not want any more humbug in mine.

Wintering in Box-Hives.—O. R. Hawkins, Bellport, N. Y., on Sept. 24, 1889, writes:

The season here has been very poor so far, on account of the extreme cold and rainy weather. In my apiary I have 7 box-hives containing bees, 2 of which have their hives only partly filled with comb; I have taken no honey from the hives this year, and expect to get very little. Will the two without a full hive live through the winter? I started with 2 colonies, hived 6 swarms, and had one that went to the woods, and another I killed, leaving 2 old colonies and 5 new ones.

[In box-hives it is difficult to tell whether the bees have stores enough for winter, but as you have taken no honey away from them, they probably have enough to carry them through until spring, if you have had any flow of honey at all. That you ought to be able to decide, as you are "on the spot."—Ed.]

Sugar for Queen-Cages, etc.—J. H. Christie, Dyersburg, Tenn., on Sept. 23, 1889, says:

I have just read Mr. Doolittle's article on page 581, and the idea suggests itself to me, that if he would use coarse-grained sugar (say New Orleans seconds), and fine wire-cloth, the same as is used in milk-strainers, all danger of sifting through into the mail-bags will be obviated. By the way, Mr. Editor, you have gotten me into difficulty, and I want you to get me out of it. It comes in this way: I have been reading the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL for twenty years, and it has taught me so much that I have nicer honey than any of my neighbors, so that were you to ask them if they were going to take any honey to the fair, they would say, "No. Why, old

man Christie will be there with his, and I cannot compete with his nice honey, so we will not try this year!" So the fun is all spoiled, unless I had some to compete with. Now you must get me out of that difficulty. My bees swarmed but little, and stored about half a crop; but they are doing nicely now, preparing well for winter. I give my vote for the golden-rod as the national flower.

[Oh! that is easy. Just educate your neighbors' sons who keep bees, and bring them up to your standard of excellence.—Ed.]

Bees Did Well.—J. F. Eikenberry, Greene, Iowa, on Sept. 28, 1889, says:

The honey season is over. Bees did well in this locality in the forepart of the summer, but the fall honey crop was very poor, on account of dry weather. I got 2,492 pounds of very fine honey—never saw any better. I will sell it all for home consumption. I started last spring with about 30 colonies, and have now 67 in good condition for winter. I like the BEE JOURNAL very much.

Bees in a Boxed Fence-Post, etc.—E. L. Pratt, of Marlboro, Mass., writes:

As I was passing a prominent street-corner in Concord, the other day, I discovered a swarm of bees in a boxed fence-post. They were working like "good fellows." Authority stepped up and ordered them smothered. No words would be taken with regard to removing them in a rational way; so at night-fall the poor little bees were sulphured to death in the height of their prosperity. The post could have been removed, bees and all, with little trouble; it was a rotten affair, and a new one would have improved the looks of the corner greatly.

I have read several very generous reports of the "bee-suits" being fought out by the Union, in leading Eastern daily papers.

I have been doing considerable doubling up of colonies for the last two weeks. Fall honey is coming in first-rate. There was none last year at this time (Sept. 1). Buckwheat is yielding in fair quantities, and of good grade. There will be no feeding this season, thank the Powers!

We will Present a Pocket Dictionary for two subscribers with \$2.00. It is always useful to have a dictionary at hand to decide the spelling of words, and their meaning.



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Pure Phenol for Foul Brood.—Calvert's No. 1 phenol, mentioned in *Cheshire's* pamphlet on pages 16 and 17, can be procured at this office at 25 cents per ounce. Not being mailable, it must go by express.

In order to pay you for getting new subscribers to send with your renewal, we make you this offer. For each yearly subscriber, with \$1.00, you may order 25 cents worth of any books or supplies that we have for sale—as a premium.

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enthusiasm for investigation. Price, by mail, 80 cents; or the AMERICAN BEE JOURNAL for one year, and the Magnifier, for \$1.50.

Red Labels for Pails.—We have three sizes of these Labels ranging in size for pails to hold from one to ten pounds of honey. Price, \$1 for a hundred, with the name and address of the bee-keeper printed on them. Smaller quantities at one cent each; but we cannot print the name and address on less than 100. Larger quantities according to size, as follows:

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Honey and Beeswax Market.**KANSAS CITY.**

HONEY.—White clover and Linden 1-lb., fancy, 14¢@15¢; good, 13¢@14¢; dark, 12¢; the same in 2-lbs., 13¢@14¢; dark, 12¢. Extracted, white, 8¢; dark, 7¢. Demand is good. Sales large for this time of year.
 Sep. 27. **HAMBLIN & BEAR**, 8, 514 Walnut St.

PHILADELPHIA.

HONEY.—That in the comb is now arriving and the demand is increasing accordingly. The outlook is still favorable for good prices for fancy honey. We quote fancy honey in neat crates as follows: 1-lb., white, 17¢@18¢; 2-lbs., 14¢@15¢; buckwheat 1-lb., 12¢@13¢; 2-lbs., 10¢@11¢. If grades of all kinds generally 1 to 2 cts. less. Extracted, white, lower, 8¢; orange blossom, 7¢@8¢; off grades, per gal., 60¢@70¢.
BEESWAX.—23¢@24¢.
 Sep. 5. **WALKER & MCCORD**, 32 & 34 S. Water St.

DENVER.

HONEY.—We quote: In one-lb. sections, 10¢@11¢; off colors, 14¢@15¢. Extracted, 7¢@8¢.
BEESWAX.—23¢@24¢.
 Sep. 20. **J. M. CLARK COM. CO.**, 1421 15th St.

NEW YORK.

HONEY.—Extracted, white clover, basswood, orange blossom and California, 8¢; buckwheat, 6 cts.; common Southern, 65¢@70¢ per gallon. Demand is good. Comb honey, fancy white 1-lb., 16¢; 2-lbs., 14¢. Fair 1-lb., 14¢; 2-lbs., 11¢@12¢. Buckwheat, 1-lb., 11¢@12¢; 2-lbs., 10¢@11¢. Demand very good for fancy white 1-lb. and buckwheat 1-lb.
BEESWAX.—22¢.
 Oct. 2. **F. G. STROHMMEYER & CO.**, 122 Water St.

CHICAGO.

HONEY.—It is arriving freely and we note some little accumulation, but all will be wanted later on. White clover 1-lb., according to style of package and appearance, 13¢@15¢; dark 1-lb., 10¢@11¢; 2-lbs., 8¢@9¢. Extracted is in light demand values ranging from 6¢@8¢, depending upon the style of package, quality, etc.
BEESWAX.—25¢.
 Sep. 21. **S. T. FISH & CO.**, 189 S. Water St.

CHICAGO.

HONEY.—It is selling slowly yet, but with colder weather we look for more active trade. Market is well supplied with honey, it being in many hands. In lots it cannot be sold at over 13¢@14¢, and in cases even less, if not in first-class condition. Extracted, 6¢@8¢; white clover and basswood, in kegs and barrels, 7¢.
BEESWAX.—25¢.
 Sep. 10. **R. A. BURNETT**, 161 South Water St.

DETROIT.

HONEY.—New crop is coming in slowly, and sells at 14¢@15¢ for comb.
BEESWAX.—23¢.
 Aug. 21. **M. H. HUNT**, Bell Branch, Mich.

ST. LOUIS.

HONEY.—We quote: Choice white clover comb, 12¢@13¢; fair, 10¢@11¢; dark, 7¢@8¢. Extracted, in barrels, 5¢@5½¢; in cans, 6¢@6½¢.
BEESWAX.—24¢, for prime.
 Aug. 21. **D. G. TUTT & CO.**, Commercial St.

NEW YORK.

HONEY.—We quote: Fancy white 1-lb., 16¢; 2-lbs., 14¢. Off grades about 2¢ per lb. less. Buckwheat 1-lb., 11¢@12¢; 2-lbs., 10¢@11¢. Extracted basswood and clover, 8¢; orange bloom, 8¢; California amber, 7¢@7½¢; buckwheat, 6¢@6½¢; Southern, 6¢@7¢ per gallon.
HILDRETH BROS. & SEGELEN,
 Sep. 10. 28 & 30 W. Broadway, near Duane St.

BOSTON.

HONEY.—Receipts have been a little in excess of sales, and there has been a disposition on the part of some to reduce prices. We quote: 1-lb., 16¢@18¢; 2-lbs., 16¢@17¢. Extracted is stronger in price, and promises to be even higher, the market being from 8¢@9¢.
BEESWAX.—None on hand.
 Sep. 23. **BLAKE & RIPLEY**, 57 Chatham Street.

CINCINNATI.

HONEY.—We quote extracted at 5¢@6¢ per lb. Comb, 11¢@12¢. Demand fair for all kinds. Arrivals of extracted are good, while good comb honey is scarce in this market.
BEESWAX.—Demand is good—20¢@22¢ per lb. for good to choice yellow, on arrival.
 Sep. 11. **C. F. MUTH & SON**, Freeman & Central Av.

KANSAS CITY.

HONEY.—White one-pounds, 13¢@14¢; rough and white 1-lb., 12¢@13¢; dark 1-lb., 10¢@12¢; white 2-lbs., 1¢@13¢. Extracted, white, 7¢@8¢; dark, 5¢@6¢. Demand improving.
BEESWAX.—None in market.
 Oct. 4. **CLEMONS, CLOON & CO.**, cor 4th & Walnut.

MILWAUKEE.

HONEY.—New crop is coming in and of very fine quality. Demand is fair and values easy. Choice white 1-lb., 14¢@15¢; 2nd quality 1-lb., 13¢@14¢; old 1-lb., 10¢@12¢. Extracted, white, in tins and pails, 6¢@8¢; in barrels and kegs, 7¢@8¢.
BEESWAX.—22¢@25¢.
 Sep. 5. **A. V. BISHOP**, 142 W. Water St.

A Handsome Present.—As the convention season is just approaching, we want to direct attention to the little book which every bee keeper needs when attending these gatherings. Here is what Mr. J. E. Pond says about it:

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